

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of Cuming County,) Application No. 911-023.08
West Point, seeking funding)
approval for recurring and non-) ORDER APPROVING FUNDING
recurring costs of Enhanced) REQUEST IN PART
Wireless 911 implementation.)
) Entered: April 17, 2007

BY THE COMMISSION:

By written request for funding dated February 12, 2007, Cuming County, West Point, sought funding from the Enhanced Wireless 911 Fund for expenses for implementing and providing enhanced wireless 911 service.

In its application, Cuming County sought non-recurring costs in the amount of **\$113,357.94** for the purchase and installation of equipment necessary to implement enhanced wireless 911 service. Cuming County's current equipment is in excess of ten (10) years old and is not capable of receiving Phase II enhanced wireless 911 calls. Additionally, Cuming County seeks \$27,339.48 over five (5) years for software maintenance and \$23,097.52 over four (4) years for hardware maintenance after the first year warranty period.

Cuming County provided supporting documentation for the equipment and associated expenses from its vendor, Positron. The Enhanced Wireless 911 Advisory Board considered Cuming County's request at its March 23, 2007 meeting and initially recommended that the Commission approve payment in the amount of **\$113,357.94**. Subsequently, the Advisory Board reconsidered its recommendation and voted to hold the funding request pending receipt of further information from the County regarding a study being conducted regarding possible consolidation of its PSAP with Thurston County. The Commission received confirmation that Cuming County's PSAP will not be consolidated and that the study in question was in relation to the consolidation of its jail and dispatch center.

The costs of installation listed in the supporting documentation exceed the prices contained in Positron's response to the Commission's Request for Proposal (RFP) by the amount of \$1,710.00. All costs contained within the request for funding and supporting documentation are set forth in the confidential attachment Appendix A, attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference.

O P I N I O N A N D F I N D I N G S

This request for additional funding is being processed pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 86-442 to 86-470. (Cum. Supp. 2006), 291 Neb. Admin. Code, Chapter 1, Section 5, Progression Order No. 5 in Commission Docket No. 911-001, entered July 16, 2002 and the Interim Policy established in Progression Order No. 1 in Commission Docket No. 911-017/PI-116, entered February 13, 2007 (Interim Policy).

Based upon the request for funding, supporting documentation, and in consideration of the recommendation of the Advisory Board, the Commission is of the opinion and finds that costs requested, subject to the limitations set forth below, are eligible under Neb. Rev. Stat. § 86-465 as all costs have been incurred or will be incurred for the purchase, installation, maintenance or operation of telecommunications equipment and telecommunications services required for the provision of enhanced wireless 911 service.

This funding request was received prior to February 16, 2007. Pursuant to the Interim Policy, the Commission therefore considers this funding request for full reimbursement without being subject to the wireless/landline allocation factor established in the Commission's February 17, 2007 order.

Cuming County's request includes costs associated with a five (5) year maintenance and service plan for both equipment and software. The Commission finds that maintenance of the equipment and software is essential to ensure the proper operation of the statewide 911 system and should be funded to the extent funds are available during this interim period, subject to change based upon the availability of funds and the permanent funding mechanism.

The Commission further finds that the funding request shall be granted only to the extent the pricing complies with Positron's response to the RFP.

Therefore, the request for funding should be granted, in part, in the amount of **\$111,647.94** for non-recurring costs and, **\$27,339.48** for Evergreen software maintenance and **\$23,097.52** for hardware maintenance, paid in annual installments for a period of up to five (5) years subject to the limitations set forth herein and the terms of the contract. Said amounts are consistent with the pricing set forth in the vendor's response to the RFP. However, this amount does not include any funding

requested in excess of the prices offered in response to the RFP as outlined in Appendix A.

The Fund shall therefore pay to Cuming County the amount of **\$111,647.94** consistent with the terms of this order and the amounts set forth in Appendix A. Payments shall be made in accordance with the progress of payments set forth in the contract.

Additionally, the Fund shall pay **\$27,339.48** for Evergreen software maintenance and **\$23,097.52** for hardware maintenance paid in annual installments for a period of up to five (5) years subject to the limitations set forth herein and the terms of the contract, subject to change based upon the availability of funding and the permanent funding mechanism. Cuming County may request that these amounts be paid directly to the vendor.

Prior to any payment being made to or on behalf of Cuming County, Cuming County shall submit to the Commission a copy of its final contract for the equipment and services described herein. Said contract shall be consistent with the amounts set forth in the funding request and approved herein.

Should Cuming County wish to be heard by the Commission regarding those portions of the funding request related to the amounts in excess of the prices offered in the response to the RFP, it shall notify the Commission in writing **within fifteen (15) days** of this order and the matter will be set for hearing.

The Commission reserves the right to modify any recurring costs associated with this funding request, including any approved amounts for maintenance, consistent with amendments to the Interim Policy or the establishment of a permanent funding mechanism.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that the Enhanced Wireless 911 Fund shall pay to Cuming County the amount of **\$111,647.94** consistent with the terms of this order and the amounts set forth in Appendix A for the equipment necessary to provide enhanced wireless 911 service.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Fund shall pay **\$27,339.48** for Evergreen software maintenance and **\$23,097.52** for hardware maintenance paid in annual installments for a period of up to five (5) years subject to the limitations set forth herein and

the terms of the contract, subject to change based upon the availability of funding and the permanent funding mechanism.

IT IS FINALLY ORDERED should Cuming County wish to be heard by the Commission regarding those portions of the funding request related to the amounts in excess of the prices offered in the response to the RFP, it shall notify the Commission in writing **within fifteen (15) days** of this order and the matter will be set for hearing.

MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska this 17th day of April, 2007.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Chairman

ATTEST:

Executive Director